GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Contents for Week of May 6, 1935. Vol. XIV. No. 11.

1. San Diego Adds a Fair to Its Annual Military and Tourist Shows.
2. Poland's New Place on the European Stage.
3. Pepper: A Fiery Trouble Maker.
4. Rikki-tikki-tavi.
5. Three Hundred Years in Connecticut.

© National Geographic Society

THREE FRIENDS IN PAPÒW, POLAND

In the country even tiny girls wear a head shawl and apron, just as their mothers do (see Bulletin No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

San Diego Adds a Fair to Its Annual Military and Tourist Shows

SAN DIEGO this year has added a California Pacific International Exposition to a round of annual activities which include thrilling military maneuvers on land and sea and in the air, and tourist attractions along its beaches and in near-by resorts. The Fair will open on May 29, and continue until November 11.

San Diego is, in many ways, one of America's most distinctive cities. Its crescent-shaped harbor is one of the most beautiful in the world, its navy, marine and army bases make it one of the nation's chief military centers, and historically it is important as the site of the first European settlement and the place where the American flag was raised first in California.

Only Ten Miles from Mexican Border

A glance at the map reveals why San Diego was destined to be an important city. Its spacious harbor is naturally protected by a long sand spit on one side and a rocky peninsula on the other. It is the first American port of call for steamers from the Panama Canal. And it lies only 10 miles from the Mexican border at the focal point of several long, fertile valleys where irrigation permits the raising of bountiful farm crops.

San Diego was discovered by a Portuguese navigator sailing under the flag of Spain, as early as 1542, although it was not named until 1602. Near the present suburb of North San Diego the first European settlement in California was founded when Father Junípero Serra began the construction of the mission of San Diego de Alcala (see illustration, next page). This, the first of a score of Franciscan missions in the State, was moved in 1774 to a new location, about eight miles from the business district of San Diego to-day, and can still be seen.

The city of San Diego was incorporated in 1850, but it did not really prosper until it was moved three miles to the present site in 1867. Since then its growth has been phenomenal, even among boom cities, and to-day San Diego boasts a population of 147,995. It is the fourth largest city in the State, being exceeded only by Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Oakland, but only since the World War has its business district expanded into a metropolitan center with skyscrapers and fine stores.

City Has Twenty-Seven Parks

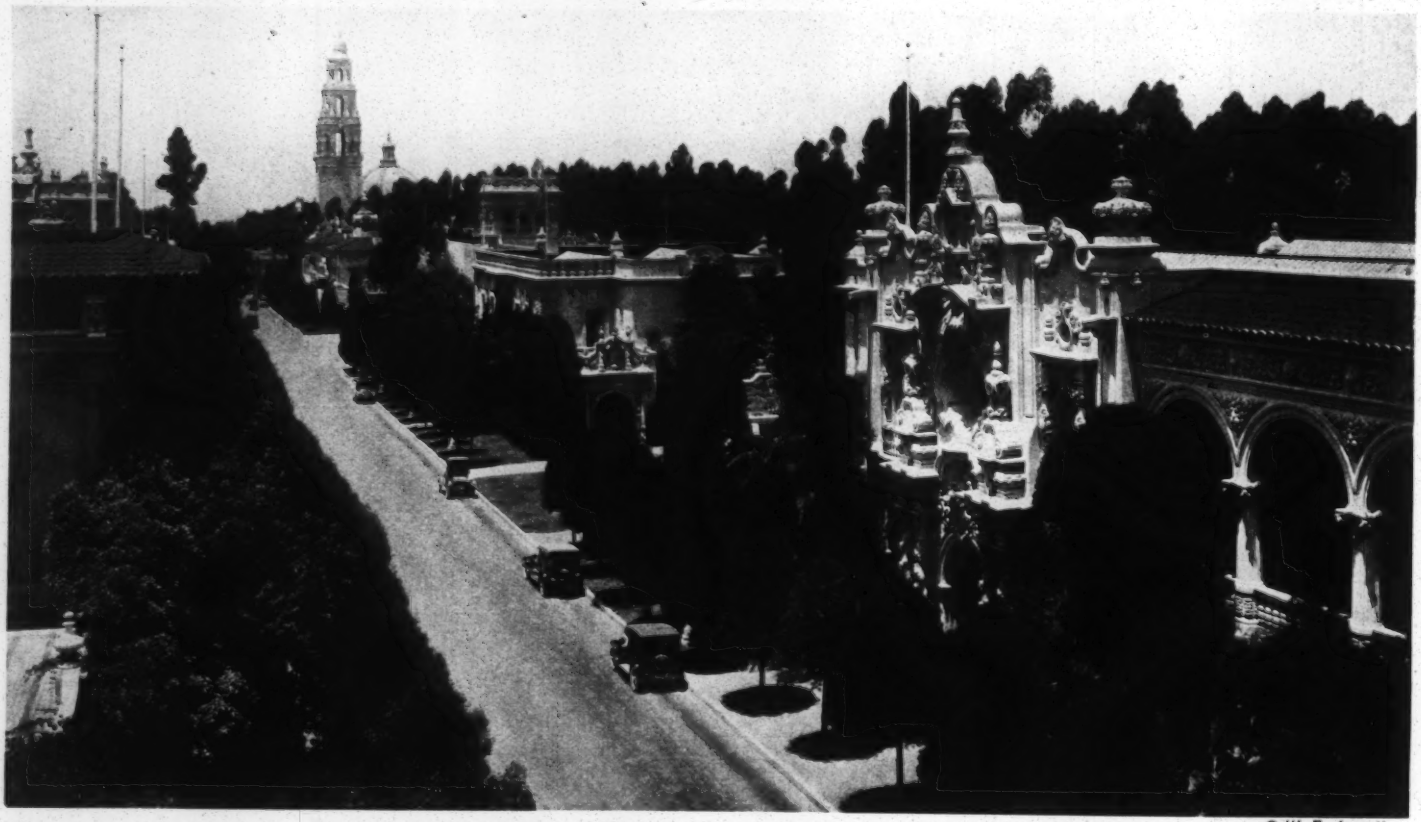
Few cities in the United States, except Washington, have as large a proportion of their area devoted to parks and to military reservations. San Diego has twenty-seven parks, the largest of which is Balboa. This immense playground covers 1,400 acres in the heart of the city. Here, overlooking the harbor and enveloping hills, the 1935 Fair will be held, using some of the buildings of the Panama-California Exposition of 1915-1916.

As the headquarters of the Eleventh Naval District, San Diego's blue harbor is often host to the gray-clad warriors of the U. S. Battle Fleet. Around the bay are military depots of many kinds—U. S. Naval Repair Base, U. S. Naval Training Station, U. S. Marine Corps Base, U. S. Army Aviation School, and U. S. Naval Air Station.

The military investment in and around San Diego represents an estimated sum of more than $35,000,000.

In addition, there are several aviation fields and a number of factories manu-

UMI



© W. E. Averett

SAN DIEGO'S FAIR WILL BE HELD IN BALBOA PARK

Luxuriant trees and graceful Spanish architecture edge the main avenue of the Park. First on the right is the County Fair Building, then the American Legion War Memorial, and the tower of the California Building. Here, in the heart of San Diego, will be held the California Pacific International Exposition (see Bulletin No. 1).

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Poland's New Place on the European Stage

POLAND'S strategic position between Soviet Russia and militant Germany makes this new European nation an important power in international affairs.

Twenty years ago the name of Poland could not have been found on any map of Europe. To-day it is the sixth largest nation in Europe, with a steadily increasing population that will soon reach forty millions.

Once before Poland was a great power. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries its territory extended from a point within 50 miles of Berlin to the meridian of the Sea of Azov, and from the Khanate of Crimea nearly to the Gulf of Finland. In those days Warsaw, next to Paris, was the most brilliant city in Europe.

Then came weak rulers and internal dissension that paved the way for Prussian, Russian, and Austrian expansion. In the three disastrous partitions of 1772, 1793, and 1795 these powers divided Poland between them, then legalized the proceedings by the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

Eastern Poland Lags Behind West

The State had ceased to exist but the people never lost their fierce nationalism. After a century and a half of oppression came the proud day in November, 1918, when Marshal Pilsudski returned to Warsaw to be acclaimed as chief of the new, independent Polish State. The Treaty of Versailles established the western boundaries of the new nation, and after a serious struggle with Russia, the eastern border was fixed by the Riga Treaty of 1921.

Under Pilsudski's leadership Poland has developed rapidly despite tremendous handicaps. Long years of fighting had devastated the land. Russia, Prussia, and Austria each left the stamp of its domination, different systems of government, education, and law. Even yet there as a sharp contrast between the low standard of living in eastern Poland and the higher standard in the more prosperous west. Minorities constitute nearly one-third of the country's population. The most restless of these are the Ukrainians in the southeast and the White Russians in the east.

The Versailles Treaty left Poland surrounded by nations jealous of land that had once been theirs. To-day peaceful relations have been established, particularly with Germany and Russia. It is significant that last year these two nations, together with Great Britain, provided the best markets for Polish trade.

Uniform Railway Gauge Adopted

Pilsudski remains the arbiter and hero of his country. March 19, the day of St. Joseph, his patron saint, is a national holiday. Three times he has refused the presidency, preferring to remain behind the scenes; but the new constitution, recently adopted, may make the office more attractive. This constitution, which comes into effect early in the summer, makes Poland an autocracy, and gives to her president the powers of an absolute monarch.

Economic progress has kept step with political growth. Devastated areas have been reconstructed. From marshlands to mountains, agriculture has been brought back to pre-war levels. Factories idle or destroyed have been rehabilitated. The currency has been stabilized. Railway mileage has been increased, and a uniform gauge adopted so that rails bind Poland together instead of tearing it apart.

The Pole, whose horsemanship is admired throughout the world, has taken to the air with dash and spirit. The Polish Air Line, LOT, covers the whole of

UMI

facturing airships and equipment. Glenn Curtis flew a seaplane at San Diego in 1911; and two years later Lincoln Beachey "looped the loop." Here Colonel Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis* was built. The municipal airport is named "Lindbergh Field" in honor of the famous flyer.

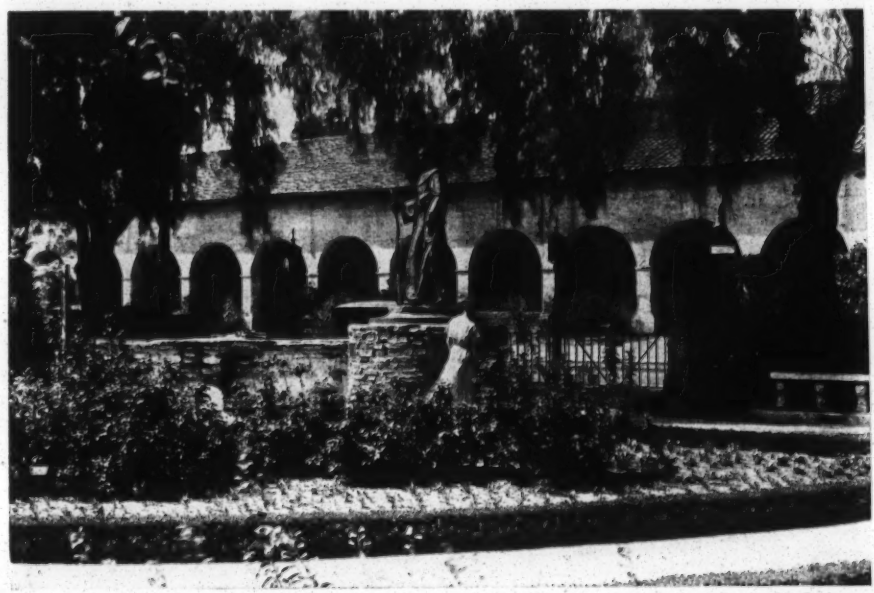
Many Neighboring Resorts

San Diego enjoys a varied industrial life. Chief sources of income are shipping, fisheries, canning, cotton-seed products, furniture, airplanes and air equipment, fruit, honey, poultry, grain, and cattle.

The city is a convenient center for tourists visiting the Mexican border resorts of Tiajuana and Agua Caliente, the latter often called "the Monte Carlo of Mexico." Near-by, too, is picturesque La Jolla, with its caves, writers' and artists' colony, and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Coronado Beach is one of the most popular California resorts, and only a few miles back in the mountains lies Cleveland National Forest.

Note: California is described in the following articles: "Southern California at Work," *National Geographic Magazine*, November, 1934; "Among the Big Trees of California," August, 1934; "California Trapdoor Spider Performs Engineering Marvels," August, 1933; "Men and Gold," April, 1933; "Out in San Francisco," April, 1932; "Befriending Nature's Children," February, 1932; "California, Our Lady of Flowers," June, 1929; "On the Trail of the Air Mail," January, 1926; "The Non-Stop Flight Across America," July, 1924; "Saving the Redwoods," June, 1920; "Wild Ducks as Winter Guests in a City Park (Oakland)," October, 1919; "Our Big Trees Saved," January, 1917; "The Wonderland of California," July, 1915; "A City of Realized Dreams (San Francisco)," February, 1915; and "Carrying Water Through a Desert (Los Angeles)," July, 1910.

Bulletin No. 1, May 6, 1935.



© *National Geographic Society*

MONUMENT TO THE MAN WHO FOUNDED SAN DIEGO

The Spanish mission, San Diego de Alcala, was the first European settlement in California. It was built by Father Junípero Serra, near the present suburb of North San Diego. This statue of the pioneer priest stands in the gardens of San Fernando Mission in Los Angeles.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Pepper: A Fiery Trouble Maker

FAILING companies closed their doors and 23,500 tons of pepper—several years' supply—piled up in London warehouses during the recent attempt by London speculators to corner the world supply of white pepper.

This is not the first time pepper has caused excitement. This fiery commodity was long a cause of contention between the early European trading companies operating in India and the Far East. Pepper cargoes raised the ire of rival sea captains of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and, along with other spices, led to pitched battles among Portuguese, Dutch, and English.

Native to the moist forests of southwestern India, especially the Malabar Coast, black pepper has long been prized by eastern peoples to quicken languid appetites. They used it not only as a pungent condiment, but even as a medicine. For centuries pepper was the staple article of commerce between India and Europe.

Pepper Was Ransom for Rome

As far back as the fourth century B. C., Greeks relished pepper as seasoning, and sneezes from it echoed in the kitchens of Rome. It was once valued on a par with precious metals. When Alaric, king of the Goths, pounded on the gates of Rome in 408, he demanded as the city's ransom 5,000 pounds of gold, 30,000 pounds of silver, and 3,000 pounds of pepper.

In the Middle Ages, pepper was prized above all spices. The most important early English guild was the Pepperer's Guild. At that time, the spice was so valuable it frequently took the place of money. Soldiers swaggered off with pounds of it as part of their booty. People received rewards in pepper, often paid their rent in pepper, and when a will was read, held their breath to hear how much pepper they had been bequeathed.

The constant cry for pepper, and its high price, was largely what set canny Portuguese explorers searching for an all-sea route to the Indies. Vasco da Gama, sailing around the Cape of Good Hope, reached the home of pepper, the Malabar Coast, in 1498 (see illustration, next page). Venetians and Genoese, who until then had practically monopolized the trade in pepper, now watched the Portuguese sail away with it. The Portuguese held the pepper purse-strings until the seventeenth century. Under their control, less pepper was raised on the Malabar Coast, but its cultivation was extended to the islands of the Malay Archipelago. Malacca, a port on the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, became a great pepper emporium.

So flourishing was the trade in pepper and other spices that in 1595 the Dutch organized an East India Company; in 1600 Queen Elizabeth chartered the English East India Company; Danish, French, Swiss and other organizations followed rapidly on their heels.

Malays Became "Pepper-Slaves"

Most important commercially and historically of all these companies was the English East India Company. During the seventeenth century English merchant vessels, with fragrant names like *The Cloave* and *The Peppercorne*, put in at East Indian ports. They unloaded cargoes of bright-colored cloth, mirrors, gums, and metal goods, and sailed back to Europe laden with raw silks, indigo, and all sorts of spices, especially pepper.

The Directors of the Company appear to have known little about the spices they dealt in, and sometimes sent out amazing orders. Once they ordered a captain in Sumatra to load his ship with as much pepper as it could carry, forbidding him to waste even the slightest space by carrying sugar as ballast. They failed to realize that such a featherweight cargo would cause the ship to bob like a cork on the waves.

For years, pepper was the object of England's trade with Sumatra. There the Company made contracts with rajahs who were obliged to compel their dependents to cultivate pepper. Each native family was forced to plant 1,000 pepper vines, and each bachelor 500. The system of compelling natives to raise pepper for the Company to buy was practiced by Dutch East Indian colonies until fairly recent times.

A second system of cultivation fostered by European trading companies was to lend the Malays money with which to cultivate pepper. But since most of the borrowers never paid back the loans, often whole villages under local laws became liable for the debt and, in effect, "pepper slaves."

Although black pepper claims a lot of relatives scattered throughout the Tropics, these do not include sweet peppers, red peppers, and chillies, which belong to an entirely different family.

The pepper vine is a symbol of perseverance, a plant that doesn't know when it is licked. Taken from its natural habitat in the moist leafmold of shady jungles, it will grow on planta-

UMI

eastern Europe from Tallinn to Thessalonike (Salonika), and there is a regular internal service between Warsaw and all important cities. In 1934 direct service was opened between London and Warsaw, and Warsaw and Moscow.

A new railway from Upper Silesia along the Polish Corridor to the new Baltic port of Gdynia assures Poland's economic freedom. In less than a decade a shabby fishing village was turned into a modern city whose harbor can accommodate fifty vessels at a time. Although an artificial port, Gdynia is well protected and capable of almost unlimited expansion. At present it is used by thirty-six regular steamship lines, six of which are under the Polish flag. The volume of trade passing through Gdynia increased from 10,000 tons in 1924 to 6,100,000 tons in 1933. Exports are principally coal, lumber, sugar, rye, barley, wheat, dairy and pork products; imports, cotton, foodstuffs, metals, and machines. Rich coal resources are the basis of Polish industry, and textiles and sugar head the list of manufactures.

Monotony is the keynote of Polish geography. Rolling plains that connect the lowlands of Germany with the Russian plains form the main part of the country. Through the central portion flows the sluggish Vistula. Yet in the south there are idyllic mountain retreats of rare beauty.

Note: See also "Poland of the Present," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1933; "Land of the White Eagle," April, 1932; "Struggling Poland," August, 1926; "Looking Down on Europe," March, 1925; "The Battle-Line of Languages in Western Europe," February, 1923; "The Geography of Our Foreign Trade," January, 1922; "The New Map of Europe," February, 1921; "Devastated Poland," May, 1917; and "Partitioned Poland," January, 1915.

Bulletin No. 2, May 6, 1935.

© *National Geographic Society*

POLISH LUMBER BOUND FOR EUROPEAN MARKETS

Forests of pine, oak, fir, and beech cover nearly a quarter of Poland. These logs are being rafted down the Vilija River past Wilno (Vilna), through territory that once belonged to Russia.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Rikki-tikki-tavi

A HERO in the Old World, a pest and a curse in the New—that in brief is the record of the mongoose whose courage in battling the hooded cobras of India was immortalized by Kipling in his tale of Rikki-tikki-tavi.

Every once in a while someone who has been reading the "Jungle Book" writes to Washington to suggest that this doughty little animal be introduced into the United States to combat snakes and rats.

Then it becomes necessary for some government official to disillusion the letter-writer by setting forth that the mongoose is a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde of the animal kingdom who shows his worst side as soon as he is transplanted into a part of the world where Nature did not originally place him. In fact, one way to get arrested is to bring a mongoose into the United States. Their introduction has been forbidden by Federal statute for over thirty years.

Upset Nature's Balance in Jamaica

If the sharp-toothed, weasel-like little animal would eat the poisonous snakes and stop there, everything might be all right. But it does not.

Down in the West Indies—Jamaica in particular—inhabitants still have a vivid recollection of hundreds of mongooses, offspring of four or five prolific pairs, overrunning the countryside and killing not only the snakes and lizards but the chickens, lambs, kids, and piglings. Even dogs and cats were not safe. Many kinds of birds were all but wiped out, for here was a new peril with which Nature had never taught them to cope.

For the mongoose this was a paradise. Imported originally to kill the rats which were ruining the canefields, it all but exterminated these pests in short order. But when the rats were no longer numerous the ever-increasing hordes of mongooses had to turn to other food with devastating results. The killing of birds, snakes, and lizards eliminated some of the leading enemies of harmful insects which promptly increased until they became a plague. The whole delicate balance of Nature was upset and it took years to restore it. A price was placed on the head of Rikki-tikki-tavi and he was hunted down relentlessly. On one estate 1,400 mongooses were killed in a few months.

Bristling Armor Deceives Snake

On another British West Indian island, St. Lucia, the story was much the same, although here there existed an exceedingly deadly snake, the fer-de-lance, which has been virtually wiped out since the coming of the mongoose. To this the immigrant from the Old World contributed perhaps more by the indirect means of eating the food, primarily rats and mice, on which the serpent was wont to feed, than by direct attack. The terrible lance-head viper proved no such easy opponent as the hooded cobras of India against which the mongoose through untold generations has perfected a lethal form of attack.

When a mongoose meets its sworn enemy, the serpent, its long hair stands straight up until the little creature in truth seems swollen to twice its normal size. The bristles deceive the snake into striking short and also form a cushioning armor which the death-dealing fangs find it hard to penetrate.

Wholly erroneous are the stories that the mongoose is immune to the snake's poison or that when bitten it goes off and finds a root or herb which it eats as an

UMI

tions, though often given scant shade, and on poor soil, if fertilized. Although it climbs freely in jungles, sometimes up to 30 feet, it continues to thrive on plantations when tied to a rough-barked tree or stone post, and kept pruned to about 12 feet.

Black Pepper and White Pepper Grown on Same Plant

It ascends the post rapidly, but no sooner does it get well up than cultivators detach it from its support, coil it like a snake in a hole in the ground, and bury it, leaving out only its tip. This is done to produce a stockier plant. Undiscouraged the pepper plant sends up a number of shoots which reclimb the post and envelop it in a dense bushy mass of grayish stems and dark green leaves frequently 10 inches long.

The vine's flowers are borne on spikes from one to six inches long. Although natives thwart attempts at fruiting by nipping the flowers each year for several years, when the spikes are finally allowed to mature, they produce a thick crop.

On each spike about 50 small berries or peppercorns develop, which gleam among the dark leaves as they turn from green, to yellow, to red. The clusters are picked by hand, and dried, usually on mats in the sun, until the peppercorns turn shriveled and black. They are next rubbed by hand from the spikes, or beaten off with sticks, cleansed and packed for export. Ground, they form the black pepper known to every American cook.

Natives remove the dark skins and pulp of the more ripened berries by various methods, commonly by soaking them in running water and then trampling them under foot. The revealed white seed becomes the familiar white pepper.

Note: Additional data and illustrations, including natural color photographs, about some of the countries where pepper is grown, are contained in "Land of the Free in Asia (Siam)," *National Geographic Magazine*, May, 1934; "The Greatest Voyage in the Annals of the Sea (Magellan)," December, 1932; "Unexplored Philippines from the Air," September, 1930; "Through Java in Pursuit of Color," September, 1929; "Among the Hill Tribes of Sumatra," February, 1928; "The Pathfinder of the East (Vasco da Gama)," November, 1927; "Singapore, Crossroads of the East," March, 1926; and "From London to Australia by Aeroplane," March, 1921.

Bulletin No. 3, May 6, 1935.

© *Wiele and Klein*

THE MALABAR COAST IS THE HOME OF PEPPER

For centuries the pepper vine has flourished in the moist forests of southwestern India. Search for the precious condiment lured Vasco de Gama around the Cape of Good Hope to Calicut, rich capital of Malabar. He may have beached his boats at a landing place like this one near the city.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Three Hundred Years in Connecticut

CONNECTICUT is 300 years old, and a special three cent stamp commemorating the tercentenary has just been issued by the Post Office Department. It bears the traditional design of Hartford's Charter Oak, where Connecticut's charter, the guarantee of her independence, was hidden from the agents of James II.

Netherlanders, not the English, were first on the Connecticut scene. They sailed up the broad Connecticut River, mapped part of the coastline, and later established a trading post near the present site of Hartford.

Pioneer in Self-Government

But rumors of the fertile lands and mild climate of the Connecticut Valley had reached the Plymouth Colony. Settlers from Massachusetts hurried down from the north, set up a rival post on the river, and in 1635 founded the three towns of Wethersfield, Windsor, and Hartford, nucleus of the Connecticut Colony.

The Fundamental Orders adopted by this little group marked the beginning of constitutional government in this country. Later, when Connecticut delegates played an important part in the shaping of the Federal Constitution, their State became known as the "Constitution State."

Under the Charter of 1662, granted by Charles II, the Connecticut Colony included Long Island, and stretched westward from Narragansett Bay to the Pacific Ocean. The Wyoming Valley in north-central Pennsylvania, and the Western Reserve in Ohio (near the present city of Cleveland) were still considered part of Connecticut late in the eighteenth century. The New Haven Colony, founded in 1638, had not been consulted when this charter was procured, and it took three years to persuade them to unite with the Hartford group. Hartford was made the capital, but from 1701 to 1873 New Haven shared the honors as joint capital.

Winter Sports in the Berkshires

Geography molded Connecticut's fate. It is a little State (the third smallest in the Union), broken into still smaller units by topography. The wide valley of the Connecticut River, running north and south through the center of the State, separates the rough uplands of the eastern and western portions. Long after the coast and central valley were settled these highlands remained wilderness. They consist of a series of hills and ridges, high in the north and low near the coast, paralleling the southward course of rivers and streams.

In the northwestern part of the State, where the wooded hills of the Berkshires are high enough to be called mountains, summers are cool and winters snowy. Last winter "snow trains" carried week-end crowds of skiiers from New York to Norfolk. Salisbury has a fine ski jump and so has Winsted.

Winsted was put on the map by a newspaper man who was worried because nothing ever happened there. His stories of strange freaks of nature, published in the *New York World* under a Winsted date line, made town and writer famous. There was the one-legged robin who turned up at the Post Office every spring promptly on the 21st of March; the equally intelligent bird who caught a trout with an angleworm; and the hen whose feet were frozen fast in a new concrete sidewalk.

Rocky hillsides and narrow valleys made large farms impractical. Only the Connecticut Valley was particularly suited to the raising of staple crops, such as tobacco. So Connecticut became a land of small independent farms and diversified crops. Slaves were never profitable. They could be used best on large plantations where a single crop is raised under rather easy conditions. Agriculture in Connecticut was never easy.

Many Important Industries

That is why the people turned to industry as the best available source of wealth. Here again geography cramped them. The State has water power but few minerals. The old Granby copper mines, never very profitable, were turned into a prison during the Revolution. Salisbury's iron mines were more successful. They have been worked for two centuries, furnishing ore for Revolutionary cannon balls and for the anchor of the *Constitution*.

Lacking raw materials Connecticut has concentrated on the manufacture of brass and copper products, machinery, firearms, ammunition, typewriters, and innumerable small articles; knives, forks, spoons, tacks, machetes, coffee percolators, rubber boots, needles, pins, hooks, and eyes.

UMI

antidote. To conquer his cobra enemy, Rikki-tikki-tavi—who gets that name from the sound of his war-cry—depends upon speed, courage, agility, and a tactical instinct inherited from a long line of snake-fighting forebears. He tires out the cobra by drawing repeated lunges. Then, so swiftly that the eye cannot follow, he darts in and crunches the back of the head just above the hood. There he clings though the threshing snake may almost bang out his brains.

In India the mongoose is domesticated to serve as protection against reptiles and to rid houses of rats and mice.

Ancient Egyptians lavished affection and even veneration upon a member of the mongoose clan, the ichneumon or Pharaoh's rat, which not only devoured snakes, rats, and lizards, but kept the number of crocodiles within bounds by feeding to a great extent upon their eggs.

In just such fashion remote ancestors of the mongoose in far-off geological times may have hastened the downfall of the enormous scaly creatures of the Age of Reptiles by the simple expedient of eating their eggs, for here is one of Nature's oldest blood-feuds.

Note: Some of the countries where the mongoose is found are described in the following: "Hunting Useful Plants in the Caribbean," *National Geographic Magazine*, December, 1934; "The Land of the Free in Asia (Siam)," May, 1934; "Skypaths Through Latin America," January, 1931; "The Warfare of the Jungle Folk," February, 1928; "Jamaica, The Isle of Many Rivers," January, 1927; "The Land of Egypt," March, 1926; "Porto Rico, The Gate of Riches," December, 1924; "Tiger-Hunting in India," November, 1924; "The Haunts of the Caribbean Corsairs," February, 1922; and "Through the Heart of Hindustan," November, 1921.

Bulletin No. 4, May 6, 1935.

Photograph by Capt. Albert W. Stevens

THE MONGOOSE SAVED ST. LUCIA FROM THE DEADLY "YELLOW VIPER"

The forested mountains of this West Indian island were once infested with the venomous fer-de-lance, but since the mongoose arrived, the snakes have disappeared. Castries, capital of the island, nestles at the head of a land-locked harbor.

Each town has a specialty—Danbury hats, Bristol clocks, Stamford locks, Meriden silver, New Britain hardware, Waterbury brass, and Willimantic thread.

Bridgeport's industries lead them all and New Haven is not far behind. The latter owes quite as much to Eli Whitney as to Eli Yale. After the inventor perfected the cotton gin he turned to New Haven and the manufacture of firearms. Another New Haven man, Charles Goodyear, discovered the process for vulcanizing rubber.

A century ago Connecticut was a sea-going State. Shipbuilding, whaling, and the China trade brought wealth to coastal villages and river ports. Many of the vessels that carried forty-niners around the Horn were built at Mystic. Essex launched the *Oliver Cromwell,* first ship in the U. S. Navy; and Wethersfield built the *Desire,* first American vessel to cross the Atlantic. But times have changed. New London is now a submarine base, and the fishing industry confines itself chiefly to the oyster beds of Long Island Sound.

Colonies of artists and writers, like those in Westport, Silvermine, Old Lyme, and Limerock, are adding to Connecticut's list of great men. A list already made famous by such names as Henry Ward Beecher, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Ethan Allen, Nathan Hale, Roger Sherman, Israel Putnam, Jonathan Edwards, Noah Webster, and P. T. Barnum.

Note: The following articles contain illustrated material on New England: "The Travels of George Washington," *National Geographic Magazine,* January, 1932; "New Hampshire, the Granite State," "Coasting Through the Bay State (Massachusetts)," color insert, and "Sauntering Through the Land of Roger Williams (Massachusetts and Rhode Island)," color insert, September, 1931; "In the Allagash Country (Maine)," April, 1929; "Massachusetts and Its Position in the Life of the Nation," April, 1923; "The Scenery of North America," April, 1922; "Massachusetts—Beehive of Business," March, 1920; "Winter Rambles in Thoreau's Country (Massachusetts)" and "Skiing over the New Hampshire Hills," February, 1920; "The Land of the Best," April, 1916; "The Unique Island of Mt. Desert (Maine)," July, 1914; and "The Green Mountain State (Vermont)," March, 1927.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS: "Dartmouth Holds Its 25th 'Jotunheim Iskarneval,'" week of February 11, 1935.

Bulletin No. 5, May 6, 1935.

© *National Geographic Society*

FINE ELMS SHADE WATERBURY'S STREETS

The village green, set with elm trees and guarded by churches, is typical of Connecticut towns. So is the signpost in the foreground, where public notices are posted. Waterbury, famous for its brass and copper industry, is known as the "Brass City."

UMI